

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

January 25

Home Bury St Edmunds 3

Won 31-26



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Tom 'BFT' Powell 2) Matt 'Faiersy' Faiers 3) Josh Cox
4) Nic Mainiero 5) Dan Phillips
6) Olly 'Smudge' Smith 7) Lewis Pennett 8) Ryan Cox
9) Doug Ellis 10) Tom Proccy Procter
11) Barney Baker 12) Aaron Stevens 13) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote 14) Owen Greaves
15) Michael 'Dids' Did-Dell

Replacements

- 16) Geoff Kirby 17) Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard

Report

The weather was very pleasant as the Renegades gathered for their first game in more than a month. The sun shone brightly and there were even a couple of subs available. Bury kicked off and within five minutes Renegades were building pressure. Proccy made a great break through the Bury line getting deep into the Bury 22 before passing to Tucker who crossed the line and seemed to take an age to actually touch down for the opening try. Proccy added the extras, 7-0.

Bury responded in kind to the Renegades opener and piled on a concerted attack on the Renegades line. The defence held solid for quite a while, but the persistence of the attack paid off with Bury getting a converted try, 7-7.

The next 15 minutes saw both teams attack and defend well, resulting in a lot of good rugby but no adjustment to the scoreboard. Credit to Proccy for a beautifully judged kick which took Bury from a threatening position to deep back inside their own half.

A great break by Dids saw him make many yards before going to ground inside the Bury 22. The ball was recycled to Proccy who bashed his way through three defenders before crashing over the line under the posts, making his conversion a simple task, 14-7.

Just a few minutes later, Renegades were building an attack again. Nic made a heroic carry along the right touchline with Faiersy screaming for the ball. Eventually Nic released and Faiersy was off. He powered towards a defender and popped the ball to Doug who was through like a rat out of a



drainpipe. He put his head down and collapsed over the line with a couple of Bury players in his wake. Proccy converted easily, 21-7. The shape of the rest of the game would be determined by how Bury responded to this rapid pair of tries. In fairness, they responded with determination building an attack. Unfortunately for them, the carrying player dropped the ball just short of the line.

Unfortunately for Renegades, the referee didn't see the dropped ball and awarded the try. The conversion fell just short, 21-12. That's how it stayed until half time.

Half time changes were Geoff on for Owen and Shep on for Dan Phillips.

The opening 10 minutes of the second half were a bit scrappy with both sides making advances and mistakes. An altercation on the ground saw Proccy and the Bury number 10 both being given a yellow card. A few minutes later Geoff received the ball inside the Bury 22 and bashed his way through several defenders to flamboyantly touch down in the left corner. With Proccy in the bin, Nic manfully put himself forward to attempt the conversion. The height and length of the kick were both good. The direction was more towards the corner flag than the posts, 26-12.

Within a few minutes, Bury had scored a converted try in response to Geoff's try. Proccy came back on. Bury mounted a strong attack and seemed to score in the left corner, but the referee pulled the game back for a scrum. Bury attacked and piled on the pressure. They shifted the ball right and found their 10 who danced through the defence to score under the posts. The conversion levelled the scores, 26-26.

There was tension on the sidelines as everyone recognised that the momentum was with Bury and Renegades would have to fight back into the game. Fight they did and a great break by Proccy advanced the Gades up the pitch. His offload to Aaron then saw him make many yards before offloading to Tucker who scored in the left corner. The conversion missed, 31-26. The clock was running down and the referee called a scrum to be the last play. There was scrappiness and Bury managed to capture the ball but it was stolen back and Proccy hoofed the ball off the pitch and nearly out of the county.

It was an excellent game, played with passion and determination by both sides. It was a good win with which to start 2025. Sadly, there is another two-week gap before Renegades host Peterborough on Feb 15.



Michael 'Dids' Did-Dell for a cracking performance at full back



Tom 'Proccy' Procter for sharing a yellow card with the Bury number 10.

Scores

Tries: Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote (2), Tom 'Proccy' Procter, Doug Ellis, Geoff Kirby

Conversions: Tom 'Proccy' Procter (3)

Match Report by Eddie Murphy

